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November 12, 2004
By: Sharon M. Fujita
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sun Ai Raillard, *et al.*

Application No.: 09/502,283

Filed: February 11, 2000

For: HIGH THROUGHPUT MASS SPECTROMETRY

Examiner: Jon D. Epperson

Art Unit: 1639

**AMENDMENT WITH REQUEST
FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being made in connection with a Request for Continued Examination, and addresses the issues raised in the final Office Action mailed October 6, 2003. Further to the filing of a Notice of Appeal, the due date for filing an Appeal Brief was June 12, 2004. A petition for a five month extension of time authorizing the Commissioner to charge the requisite fee pursuant 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-0990 is enclosed. The petition thus effectively extends the period for response from June 12, 2003 to November 12, 2004.

The foregoing Amendment and RCE are being submitted in lieu of an Appeal Brief. The requirements for an RCE submission are met in that prosecution is closed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the finality of the aforementioned Office Action and consideration of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this submission.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this submission.